



# News

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## NEWS RELEASE

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## Contact

Carol Sisco (801) 538-3991

### Fran Morse Named Disabilities Director

Human Services Director Robin Arnold-Williams appointed Fran Morse director of the Division of Services for People With Disabilities. She begins work July 22.

Morse will be responsible for a \$140 million budget and approximately 900 employees statewide.

Morse, the associate director for Client Support Services at Valley Mental Health, has spent most of her career working with people who have disabilities and the mentally ill.

"I've had a zig zag course back and forth between the two areas all my life," she said. "It is a good mix."

A recent legislative audit will serve as the "roadmap" as Morse decides what direction the division should take.

"Human Services and the Division's Board have already begun responding to the audit and we'll continue that," she said. "I'll align myself with them. I think some strengthening is needed to align what the division does with the law, regulations and board policies."

The division began a review of its priorities, operations and service-delivery processes when Craig Monson became interim director in January. He will return to his position as director of the DHS Office of Services Review.

Morse has been at Valley Mental Health since 1989. Prior to that she ran the Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, worked at Utah Health Department and in the Department of Social Services which later became Human Services. Earlier she directed the Division of Mental Health for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Saipan where she also was responsible for programs for substance abusers and people with disabilities.

Morse has a Ph.D. from the University of Utah in clinical and counseling psychology; a master's degree in social psychology from the U. and a bachelor's degree from Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Virginia in psychology.

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